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Diversity is key

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNews Staff

PELHAM — It's the diversity of activities at the town's Summerfest that sets it apart from other events.

see SUMMERFEST | page 3

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Organizers expected as many as 20,000 people at the four-day Summerfest in downtown Pelham.

ALLAN BENNER Staff photo

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■ **PUBLIC SAFETY:** Police continually responding to complaints about racing down hills

Longboarding banned on Pelham streets

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

Longboarding in certain rural Pelham streets is prohibited until further notice.

Niagara Regional Police Const. David Brown and Pelham bylaw officer Craig Genessee asked council last Monday night to prohibit youth from longboarding on sections of hilly Overholt Dr., Shoals Dr., Effingham St. and Elizabeth St. — and elected officials agreed.

The constable said police have received 37 calls in the past four months from concerned residents and drivers who have spotted youths

longboarding on those four streets.

Pelham bylaw officer Craig Genessee said there are no laws prohibiting skateboarders from skating on any street in Ontario.

"It is illegal for kids to be on a skateboard on a road without a helmet and they are good with that."

However, there is a town bylaw which states no person shall play or take part in any game or sport on a roadway. Skateboarding and longboarding are not specifically named in the bylaw, he said.

The bylaw officer asked council to prohibit longboarding on the four proposed streets for the time

being, to post signs to alert the public, to direct staff to update the town's bylaw as well as direct staff to come up with options for creating a more prominent longboarding track at the Isaac Riehl skatepark slated to be built at Marlene Stewart Streit Park.

"We're not anti-kids and we're not anti-skating," said Genessee, adding that the reason for asking council for a longboarding prohibition is safety.

Brown said many of the complaints received by the NRP include youths racing down streets, often riding in drivers' blind spots.

see BOARDING | page 11



LYLE ASPINALL QMI Agency

A youth with a longboard is shown in this file photo.

■ **RECREATION:** Youths suggest town folk simply see them as a 'nuisance'



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

The Town of Pelham posted signs on sections of rural roads in Pelham this week where longboarding is considered dangerous and banned until further notice. The ban includes a hill on Overholt Rd.

Reconsider, longboarders ask

SARAH FERGUSON
Tribune Staff

Since learning their sport has been prohibited on four Pelham streets, a group of local longboarders is appealing to the town to reconsider.

"We feel we are not in danger, but we're just a nuisance to people who just don't want us to skate there," Isaac Harley told *The Tribune* in reaction to Pelham town council's decision to prohibit youth from longboarding on sections of Overholt Rd.,

Shoals Dr., Effingham St. and Elizabeth St.

He said he wants the public to know he and his friends are a "good group of kids" just trying to have fun and physical activity.

Niagara Regional Police Const. David Brown and Pelham bylaw officer Craig Genessee asked council last Monday night to prohibit longboarding on hilly sections of the four streets and elected officials agreed.

There was already a town bylaw that states no person

shall play or take part in any game or sport on a roadway, but skateboarding and longboarding are not specifically cited.

Signs were posted along the four streets this week and town staff is expected to make recommendations for updating Pelham's bylaw.

Plans for the Isaac Riehl Skate Park which will be built at Marlene Stewart Streit Park will be examined to appeal to longboarders.

see BAN | page 11

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SUMMERFEST

Festival achieved organizers' hopes

FROM PAGE 1

The four-day festival in downtown Fonthill offered the flavours and aromas of a food festival, the live entertainment of a music festival, a plethora of children's activities and a juried art show featuring 22 artists.

And that's precisely what organizers hoped to achieve when planning Pelham's third annual celebration, said Mayor Dave Augustyn.

"The vision is more about vibrancy and celebrating community, about being with friends and neighbours," Augustyn explained. "It's not about food, it's not about making money or anything like that. It's about all those things."

The festival, he added, is designed so elements such as the Kid's Zone, the live music, and Art in the Park are of equal importance.

"It's really about all of the elements of visual and tactile art, music etc.," Augustyn said. "If you think about all of those things that's what we're trying to achieve here and I think we've done it."

Ward 3 Coun. Peter Papp

said about 3,500 people were at the festival during the opening night at 4 p.m., last Thursday.

"It was unbelievable," he said.

And although last Friday was a washout due to the weather, Papp was confident that the event would see a lot more visitors during the weekend.

He said event organizers expected more than 20,000 visitors during the weekend, despite last Friday night's severe thunderstorm.

"We basically lost a day, Friday, but we're going to make it up," Papp said.

He was with fellow Ward 3 Coun. John Durley and volunteer Diane Watters watching the crowd gather after the rain stopped early Saturday afternoon.

"People are starting to show up."

"What a day," Waters said. "What a wonderful day. Thank gosh the weather's holding out."

Augustyn said the event has come a long way in a few short years.

"What began three years ago as a single-day event to



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

Live music was provided throughout the weekend at Pelham's Summerfest, including the British Invasion Band who performed Saturday.

celebrate the construction being done in downtown Fonthill and the revitaliza-

tion has now turned into a four-day wonderful amazing festival," he said.

"We're so grateful to the volunteers for organizing it and the sponsors for ensur-

ing it can happen.²

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We want no kid left behind, especially in a hot car

It's the most precious cargo you'll ever put in your car.

But sadly, some parents aren't transporting their kids with the high burden of care required.

At the end of June, Milton, Ont., toddler Maximilian Huysken was left in a parked car in the heat for hours.

The reason? Mixed messages. One caregiver thought another was looking after that. That minor confusion ended in tragedy.

The little boy's grandmother is now charged with criminal negligence causing death and failing to provide the necessities of life in the death of her grandson.

The day after Huysken's funeral, a three-year-old Edmonton child died under similar circumstances. Homicide detectives are currently investigating.

It's not just Canadians grappling with these problems.

This past week two kids died in cars in Israel.

Last Thursday, an 11-month-old in Alabama died in a car, bringing the total of heat-related car deaths to 21 in the United States. The U.S. average is a heartbreaking 37 kids a year.

It may seem harsh for the legal system to slap charges on mourning family members who didn't mean for their child to suffer and would give anything to turn back time.

But neglect is neglect.

Something needs to drive the point home and draw attention to just how much harm leaving a kid in a car on a hot day can do.

The heat wave that recently impacted much of Canada was bad enough to experience indoors with a fan on. Inside a car with the windows rolled up makes it that much worse.

Studies show temperatures inside your car can soar in mere minutes and reach hazardous levels even on days not as torrid as we've experienced during the recent heat wave.

And kids are especially vulnerable: Their bodies heat up nearly five times faster than those of grownups.

Leaving a young child alone in a car is never a good idea, in any kind of weather.

If you see an unattended kid, or a pet for that matter, sweating away in a car, call 911.

And lock your car doors when it's simply so adventurous tykes can't get in when you're not around.

One simple mistake can end in catastrophic results.

— Sun Media

■ GUEST COLUMNIST: Joe Barkovich

JOE BARKOVICH

This is crunch time for local food banks. No, not 'crunch' as in a mouthful of potato chips. But 'crunch' as in decisive moments in the summer after summer. I've no doubt it is being experienced again.

Not long ago, I read a story in this newspaper about Welland Salvation Army's plight: in order to keep up with demand, it might have to start purchasing food supplies to give to food bank clients.

The Army is not alone. Another example is the venerable St. Vincent de Paul Society, which for decades has come to the assistance of needy people in our community. Recently, volunteers have turned to pasta dinner or wine and cheese fundraisers for the same purpose — to purchase non-perishable food for donations to people in need because of difficulty in keeping up with demand.

So, dare I say the problem of poverty in local communities is a moral crisis?

So, dare I say we should be morally outraged at the situation staring some of us in the face, and others in the

stomach?

We should be shocked by what is happening. The social safety net, the support system that provides assistance to those who "fall through the cracks" as the saying goes, may be in need of a safety net of its own. I don't know about you, but I find this alarming.

Donations from the communitywide food drive, from a flurry end-of-school-year food drives and from other means of organized giving just don't cut it anymore. They haven't for a while.

Word on the street, word from church pulpits, word from front-line workers, word at gatherings of social justice activists is that volunteer-based charitable agencies cannot count on donations from the community at large to carry them through another month.

Two forces may explain what is happening.

One: Charitable may be on the decline. This could be attributed to so-called "donor fatigue" — people are becoming tired or apathetic about contributing, or the number of people who can donate regularly is itself in decline, due to hard times or personal setbacks of their own.

Two: The number of people in need of assistance is still escalating, placing greater stress on supply.

A longtime food bank volunteer offers a chilling assessment of the situation,



JOE BARKOVICH Tribune Photo
Food banks are almost always in need of non-perishables such as cereal, canned vegetables, rice, pasta and pasta sauce.

describing it as one where "more people are on the way down than on the way back up." More people coming to food banks these days are working-class people, the underemployed, who are struggling just to tread water, he said.

A memorable headline over top a story in a Toronto newspaper about how food banks were started as a short-term measure but still are in business 30 years later tells the story in a nutshell: "How a snack became an endless meal." It's applicable here, too, and in Port Colborne and St. Catharines and Niagara Falls and elsewhere.

Here is something else to ponder.

Is something out of whack with our priorities? People express outrage about pets left inside vehicles during sweltering weather — and I am among them, my

household includes a dog and a cat. But where are the voices of concern over the sight of 30, 40, 50 or more people waiting for a food bank to open its doors? Where are letters to the editor from people of conscience asking: Why is this happening? What is to be done about it?

The sound of silence — the common response to such scenarios — should be worrisome. On a world scale, it has been referred to as the "globalization of indifference."

Dare I say we are witnessing a "localization of indifference?" Welland has five food banks in total, and donations to all slow to a trickle during summer months. If the experience of previous years holds true, it may be time for a reality check by local media to see how they are coping, the outcome could have powerful effect. I'm reminded of a note from Monique Finley, Welland Food Bank committee chair, after last fall's citywide collection: "People read and depend on *The Tribune* for all our community news so by extension, the food drive's success is tied to *The Tribune* as well."

The predictable plea, "our cupboards are bare" by food bank staff should not be taken with a grain of salt if read on local news pages or newspaper websites. The "localization of indifference" can take a heavy toll.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A big thanks from the Summerfest Committee

Wow! The Pelham Summerfest Committee would like to thank the more than 21,000 people who participated in this year's four days (almost) of free family fun in downtown Fortnall.

This event is made possible by community oriented sponsors who contribute to ensure all of the entertainment and fun activities are free. We thank them for their support

and we hope you will consider supporting them, too.

We also give thanks to the many volunteers of all ages, the Town of Pelham staff and first aid providers, the Ferriwack and Fortnall service clubs, and the local arts community for their dedication and willingness to contribute so much of their time and talent both before and during the event.

Pelham's businesses did a

great job of showcasing food, products and services and we appreciate their enthusiasm and support. They are open year round and look forward to your ongoing patronage. Pelham Safety was our primary concern when we closed at 7 p.m. on Friday evening due to the storm. We appreciated everyone's understanding and co-operation.

Finally, we want to hear from

you! Tell us how we did! Visit the website and complete a quick survey. Your feedback and comments are important. We also have the prize winners listed on the website at www.pelhamsummerfest.ca.

With sincere appreciation,
The Pelham Summerfest Committee

Gary Ackerson, Todd Barber, Beck Clark, Kathleen Goodman, Vickie vanRenswaele, and John Wink

Slip slidin' away



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

There were plenty of activities for children at Pelham's Summerfest, including several inflatable activities.

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■ **SUMMERFEST:** Second annual Art in the Park event held as part of Pelham festival

'Exquisite' artists display their work

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNews Staff

Pat Hafta was impressed with the collection of talented people she brought together to be part of Art in the Park, the outdoor art festival held as part of Pelham Summerfest celebrations.

"We are fortunate that we have so many talented people

who have chosen to join us this year," she said, referring to the 22 professional artists from throughout southern Ontario who participated in the second annual juried art show.

Hafta, who previously helped run the Pelham Art Festival held in the area in May, as well as an art show in Niagara-on-the-Lake, started

the Art in the Park event last summer held as part of the town's four-day festival.

Lauren Ellis was among those extremely talented artists, displaying her collection of sketches of animals and portraits.

Hafta was impressed with the work of the newcomer who was participating in her first outdoor art festival.

"We are really pleased to have a new artist here this year," Hafta said. "Her work is exquisite. She will really take off."

Ellis, a Welland native who now lives in Guelph, was happy to be back in Niagara for the show.

"It's been good and the artists here are wonderful," she said. "I've really enjoyed it.


It's fun and it's really good exposure, too."

She said the event garnered a lot of interest from people who stopped by her tent curious in ordering portraits.

Ellis said Art in the Park was the first time she'd been able to display so many of her drawings at one time.

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ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo
Artist Lauren Ellis stands among some of her work, on display at the Art in the Park juried art show held as part of Pelham Summerfest.



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Book the Arena Hall or Old Pelham Town Hall for your next function or event!

For more information, contact (905) 892-2607, ext. 347.

List Your Business in the Town of Pelham Recreation, Culture & Wellness Guide

Fill out a business directory information card with the Town of Pelham by visiting Town Hall or contact 905-892-2607, ext. 315.

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■ **WEATHER:** South Niagara gets off a little easier following tornado warning

Storm wreaks havoc in Niagara

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNews Staff

Last Friday's thunderstorm wreaked havoc in Niagara, bringing an early end to Pelham Summerfest activities that evening.

But volunteers running the event managed to batter down the hatches before the storm arrived, said Mayor Dave Augustyn.

"Through the tenacity of many volunteers that remained here we survived the storm," Augustyn said, shortly after the sky cleared last Saturday morning and the festival resumed.

Ward 3 Coun. Peter Papp was one of those volunteers preparing for the storm when his cellphone rang.

"My son called me and said you'd better get home, Dad," Papp said.

His son Andrew told him a large tree in front of his Lawrence Ln. home was toppling by lightning.

"There were scorch marks down the side of the tree," he said. "It hit it almost straight on."

He said the town's forestry maintenance department arrived at his home soon afterwards and "did a great job" clearing the wreckage.

The more than 20 artists who displayed their work in tents set up at Peace Park during the festival were given early warning about the incoming storm, said organizer Pat Hafar.

Hafar said the storm weather was particularly hard for Lauren Ellis, who was at her first outdoor art show.

"She's kind of had to go through a baptism of fire," Hafar said. "She had to deal with really high humidity on (last) Thursday, and then the storm came."

Ellis said the storm was too much for an artist that had a tent set up next door to hers. That artist arrived Saturday morning to find their tent

blown over and destroyed by the wind overnight. She said the artist packed up and headed home.

Welland fared better than many other communities hit by last Friday's storm.

City engineer Sal Iannello said he hadn't heard about any major problems occurring as a result of the high winds, heavy rain and lightning.

"I haven't seen any e-mails or anything yet this morning," he said, Saturday.

"I'm sure there's a few tree limbs down here and there, and I'm sure we had the guys

out pumping at Fitch, but I haven't heard of any negative issues from anyone yet," Iannello added, referring to the need to discharge storm water at the Fitch St. sewer pumping station. "I know it came down heavy — there's no question — and it wasn't the best night's sleep for anybody."

With the exception of the booming thunder, Welland fire department platoon chief Mark Belcastro said it was a relatively quiet night for firefighters as well.

"We just had a couple minor calls," he said. "It was



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just an alarm activated on Empire St. and a couple med (medical assistance) calls. That was about it. We weren't too bad."

Across north Niagara, emergency crews and municipal personnel were inundated with calls for help.

Niagara's emergency dispatch service reported handling more than 125 calls from 6 p.m. to midnight, with

most of them storm-related.

By 8:40 a.m., they were handling a half-dozen calls, mainly of them related to hydro lines down and alarms going off. At one point, more than 4,800 customers were without power in St. Catharines as hydro crews worked early into Saturday to restore downed power lines from a severe thunderstorm.

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■ **SHOPPING:** Walmart's new competition opens its doors in Welland

Target audience ready to spend

MARYANNE FIRTH
PelhamNews Staff

WELLAND — Shereen Thompson had her heart set on a 'Komodo Dragon'.

It was the reason she lined up at 7:30 a.m. last Tuesday — to be the first customer through the doors at Welland's new Target store.

It wasn't a new scaly pet that the Welland and self-proclaimed Starbucks addict had on her shopping list, but a tall order of her favourite dark-roast coffee blend.

"I'm ready to sip and shop," she said with a laugh, eager to fix her morning craving and to explore what Target had to offer — including a Starbucks outlet.

About 50 early-morning shoppers lined up outside the retail giant's new home at Seaway Mall to get a glimpse inside the long-awaited store.

"I don't know much about (Target). I want to see what it's all about," said Pat Paladino, who shared the front of the

line with Thompson.

"They have good prices and fun brands," Thompson chimed in.

"I've had this day marked on my calendar for a while."

Area residents often travel to the states to shop at stores like Target, Paladino said. He's hopeful their presence in the Rose City will mean less cross-border trips.

Denny Julien also had a peek Tuesday morning at what Target had to offer, taking a walk through the store.

"We welcome new competition," he said. "We'll continue to do what we do best — providing great service and prices to help Canadians save money and live better."

Carol Ribaric was Impressed by Target's 11,700-square-metre (130,000-square-foot) store and by the friendliness of its staff.

"I really missed Zellers when it closed," she said, adding she had been eyeing the construction while count-

ing down the days when Target was to open.

"I think it's very nice inside. It's so clean. I'm happy they're here."

Ribaric plans to make weekly trips to the store, which is within walking distance of her home.

Sean and David McDonnell-Lye had also been eagerly awaiting the store's opening, but were less impressed with what they saw.

"We've been waiting forever to see if it compares with the States," Sean said.

He felt the prices, however, were not on par.

"We thought for opening day they'd have more specials."

Target spokesperson Lisa Gibson said the company prides itself on its guest services and welcomes feedback via Facebook and Twitter from patrons of the new stores.

Eighteen Target stores — including one in Niagara Falls — were opened across



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Crowds rush into Welland's new Target store as doors opened for the first time at 8 a.m. on Tuesday.

Canada Tuesday, the third of five 'waves' of store openings to take place this year, Gibson said.

"We continue to learn and improve with each wave," she said, adding feedback from the public helps with those improvements.

The Welland store will hold its grand opening on Friday with flyers to hit local mailboxes this week.

Welland economic development manager Dan Degazie wasn't able to make it out to the store opening, but said it's been all the buzz

in the community.

Target has brought additional business to the mall and has created more than 100 jobs, he said, pleased to welcome the company to town.

maryanne.firth@sunmedia.ca



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Registration: July 29- Aug 2 daily from 9:00 am-6:00 pm

Where: at the SNRC Portable, 270 Colborne St., Welland

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■ BOARDING

Violators can be ticketed by police for ignoring ban

FROM PAGE 2

"Our powers of enforcement are limited, which is why I went to Mr. Genesee to see what could be done," Brown told council.

Once a street has been designated prohibited for longboarding, officers can issue tickets to violators.

"I think it's a tragedy waiting to happen sooner or later and when it does, it's going to be horrible," Brown said.

■ BAN

Meeting helped youth understand decision

FROM PAGE 2

Isaac died last fall enjoying the sport, which he preferred over skateboarding.

Harley rides with a group of other longboarders down a hill on Overholt Rd. He said they take their safety seriously by wearing helmets, wrist guards and knee pads.

"We always say you can't shred with if you don't wear a helmet," said fellow longboarder Kelgan Macerole.

The group is mindful of cars, usually having a spotter watch for passing vehicles. When a motorist approaches, Macerole said the spotters yell "car" and everyone steps to the side of the road to let the vehicle pass.

Harley and a few other local longboarders called a meeting last Friday morning with Mayor Dave Augustyn to discuss solutions.

"I was pleased that we had it," Augustyn said of the meeting.

The mayor said the meeting helped the youth to understand why council made its decision.

"It's clear these areas (where the

Designs for Fonthill's skatepark are expected to be shown to the town's skatepark committee on July 31 with just minor details involving longboarding, said Vickie van Ravenswaay, director of recreation, culture and wellness.

"It's not to any degree these longboarders are wanting."

Mayor Dave Augustyn said more education for both drivers and youths riding longboards and skateboards are required.

"Although the potential for tragedy is great, this is an opportunity to meet with youth and have a creative problem-solving workshop," he said.

Along with alerting the public to a longboarding ban on four of Pelham's rural roads, a report with staff recommendations on how to proceed with an update the town's

bylaw is expected to be brought before council at a future meeting.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca
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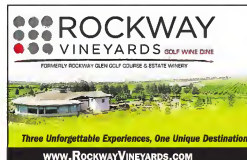
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■ BANDSHELL

Sattalites to perform in Peace Park

For PelhamNews

The Sattalites are the product of the instantaneous rapport between charismatic flugelhorn player Jo Jo Bennett and singer/saxophonist Fergus Hambleton.

Hailing from widely diverse musical and cultural backgrounds, Fergus and Jo Jo met while touring with reggae crooner Leroy Sibbles. The pair, who formed two thirds of Sibbles' "Sattalite Horn" section, quickly became crowd favourites, prompting them to establish a band to showcase their unique brand of spirited reggae. Jo Jo's deep reggae roots melded with Fergus' love of '60s pop vocal harmonies created a unique take on one of the most influential music genres in the world.

The Sattalites, as we know them today, came together in Toronto in 1980, first as a teaching vehicle, but as the word spread of the impressive

live shows, the band began to tour extensively. They soon began a recording career that would produce 5 award winning albums; Sattalites; Live via Sattalites; Miracles; All Over the World, Now and Forever and Reggaification.

The Sattalites went on to pave the way for many Canadian world music artists. They are notably the first Canadian band to be invited to perform at Jamaica's Sunsplash, playing to an audience of over 25,000 reggae connoisseurs. They brought the house down at the 1993 and 1994 World Skiing Championship festivities in Whistler B.C. and have played amongst the red woods as part of the 1993 Reggae on the River Fest in Redway, California. The Sattalites have performed thousands of shows, at universities and clubs both here and in the US. They have appeared at many special events at Ontario Place, Parliament Hill in the



The Sattalites, presented by the Rotary Club of Fonthill, will perform at the Fonthill Bandsell on Thursday, July 25 at 7 p.m.

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nation's capital, and Toronto's City Hall. They continue to contribute time and music to a diverse group of charitable organizations. Sattalites videos have enjoyed high rotation on Much Music and MuchMore Music, and the band has made many television appearances. The Sattalites remain in high demand across Canada, the United States and at festivals around the world.

During their illustrious career the Sattalites have garnered many industry awards - including two Juno awards for Best Reggae Recording (1985 & 1990), a Casby for Best R&B/Reggae Recording, a Toronto Music Award for Best Reggae Group; and two Black Music Awards, Best Group and Best Single of the Year. They have received countless Canadian Reggae Music Awards including 1992 Group of the Year. The Sattalites have also received a Juno nomination for Best World Best Recording Artist and Hambleton was named Buffalo, New York's Favorite Male Vocalist for four consecutive years.



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■ **TRANSIT:** Train service cut last year for economic reasons

Niagara wants its Via back

DAN DAKIN QMI Agency Niagara Via Rail chief marketing and communications officer Steve Del Bosco listens Thursday to a question during a public meeting about the cut to train service in Niagara.



DAN DAKIN
QMI Agency Niagara

ST. CATHARINES — If regular Via Rail service is ever going to return to Niagara, it will take a big increase in ridership to make it happen.

That was the message from Via's chief marketing and sales officer Steve Del Bosco, who got an earful from politicians and former customers at a meeting last Thursday in St. Catharines.

"We all see it as a step backward in terms of the cuts in service," Niagara

Falls city councillor Victor Pietrangelo.

"It's truly disappointing," added Welland MP Malcolm Allen. "It's frustrating to say the least."

Via used to offer year-round, daily train service from Niagara to Toronto in the morning and in the other direction at night.

But it ended that route last October, partially blaming the move on GO Transit's increased daily bus service.

see **TRAIN** | page 14

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■ TRAIN

Decision made on economics

FROM PAGE 13

Municipalities across the region have been fighting to get train service back ever since, and Thursday's meetings — at the St. Catharines Via station and later in the day in Welland — were at the request of Niagara politicians.

"You don't have rail service to one of the top three destinations in Canada," said St. Catharines Mayor Brian McMullan. "Mention that to tourists and they just don't understand it."

But Del Bosco said the decision to cut daily service came down to economics.

"We looked at our train services across Canada and their costs. Niagara was one of our worst in terms of cost recovery," he said.

Del Bosco said the Niagara-Toronto route had an average of 92 people per train, resulting in a 39% cost-recovery rate.

"The volume of passengers and average fare wasn't enough to cover the costs," he said, adding the route would need an average of 258 people per trip to break even.

"We understand the frustration ... but there is an economic case to be made and we have to be as efficient as possible."

But Ripley's Entertainment

general manager Tim Parker said train service to Niagara is a necessity.

"Via is saying the business model is changing and GO is saying 'we can't do anything until at least 2020.' That leaves us high and dry," he said.

St. Catharines MP Rick Dykstra hopes the message to the Via officials was clear.

"I think the engagement gave the officials an understanding they should have come down here before the decision (to cut service) was made. I think that would have been a lot more productive."

Dykstra said what's needed is an "overall transit strategy" in Niagara involving Via and GO train service, bus service across the region and air travel from the Niagara District Airport.

Allen said even though Welland didn't have a Via station, many residents of the Rose City used the service.

"It's amazing how many people from Welland went to St. Catharines every day to catch the train," he said.

"Most people here say they prefer the train over the bus. Their stance is 'we want a train back.'"

dan.dakin@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @dandakinmedia

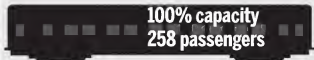
Making rail service work

VIA says the Toronto-Niagara route was operating at a 39% cost recovery before the plug was pulled in October, 2012.



**39% capacity
92 passengers**

Company officials said it would take 258 passengers per train for it to break even, but that the average train was carrying 92 passengers.



**100% capacity
258 passengers**

■ MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS: Fenwick ballot territory growing

Pelham alters electoral ward boundaries for next year's municipal election

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

For the first time in a quarter-century, the electoral boundaries of Pelham have changed.

"Certainly, the change was warranted," Mayor Dave Augustyn said in an interview. "Since the last time ward boundaries were reviewed, Pelham's population has increased by 60%."

A ward boundary study was conducted to examine strengths and weaknesses of the town's electoral system. Two open house meetings,

which were poorly attended, were held in June to educate the public, Augustyn said.

Town council viewed options for ward boundary changes presented by Watson and Associates, Economides Ltd., the company hired for the study.

Pelham's three-ward system with a mayor and six ward councillors, with two elected in each of the three wards, will remain the same.

"What essentially is changed is Fenwick and the rural area got larger and there was a redistribution in wards two and three."

Currently, War 1 comprises

North Pelham and Fenwick divided from the other two wards by Sixteen Rd. and Orchard Hill Rd. to the north and Centre St. to the east. Ward 2 comprises the north part of Fonthill, and Ward 3 takes in most of downtown Fonthill and the south end of Fenwick.

Changes to the ward boundaries will see Ward 1 comprise North Pelham and Fenwick, divided from the other two wards by Metter Rd. and Centre and Cream Sts. Ward 2 will consist of downtown Fonthill and Ward 3 will be bound south of Pancake Ln. and Effingham St. to the west.

The changes will take effect for the 2014 municipal election.

"As for the impact on people, some folks in more rural sections of Pelham might find they're in a different warding. It's important for folks to take a look at it and see. I'm sure as we get in to the next election, there may be some confusion," the mayor said.

Augustyn said the changes to the ward boundaries reflect the change that has gone on in the community over the past 30 years and also recognize anticipated growth for Pelham.

PELHAM WARD CHANGES

Present ward structure population

Ward 1: 4,710

Ward 2: 5,990

Ward 3: 7,460

Total estimated number of eligible voters for Pelham: 18,160.

New ward boundary population (effective in 2014)

Ward 1: 5,455

Ward 2: 6,335

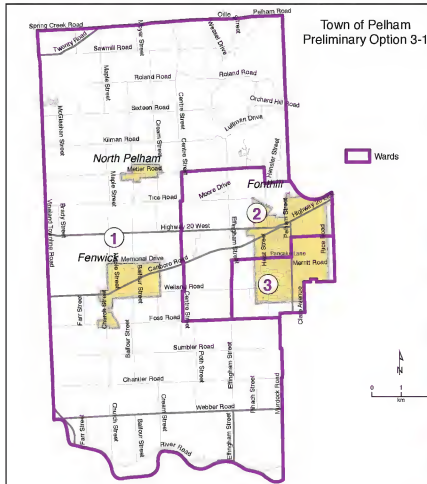
Ward 3: 6,370

Forecast population growth between 2013 and 2022

Fonthill: 2,500

Fenwick: 300

Rural Pelham: 10



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SPORTS

Pelham arena is needed

PELHAM — In a letter directed to town staff, Pelham Minor Hockey Association says it is in support of a new arena facility in the east Fonthill area and will assist the town in identifying groups to maximize the use of a twin-

pad facility.

PMHA currently books 110 hours of ice time in other facilities for games, practices, tournaments and tryouts because of a shortage of available ice, locally.



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DRY SKIN



RON PARTON
R.Ph., B.Sc., Pharm.

At this time of year patients are starting to complain about dry skin. Dry skin management often involves some trial and error of different products, but there are some general rules everyone can follow to help manage symptoms.

Dry skin occurs when oils in the skin are lost and water that is normally in the skin is able to escape. When bathing or showering it is important to use lukewarm water as opposed to hot water. Hot water can cause more oil to be lost from the skin and cause itching and dryness. Soap should be used only for groin, underarms, and feet. Other moisturizing body washes can be used for the rest of the body. After showering or bathing apply a moisturizer to help retain some of the moisture from the shower.

There are many different types of moisturizers. Depending on the ingredients they have separate functions. Some ingredients can hydrate and soften the skin. Others provide a barrier to prevent water loss, and others help to draw water to the top layer of the skin. Depending on what combination of ingredients are used there are four classes of moisturizers. There are ointments, oils, creams, and lotions.

Examples of ointment moisturizers include Aquaphor, and Vaseline. These moisturizers can be greasy and only a small amount is needed. They would be useful for someone with very dry hands. They can be applied at night under cotton gloves.

An example of an oil moisturizer would be baby oil. Again, only a small amount is needed. It is not a good idea to add these to the bath because they can make the tub very slippery. As well they can cause yeast infections when added to bath water.

An example of a cream moisturizer would be Cetaphil moisturizing cream. Cream moisturizers are generally less greasy, and very gentle for sensitive skin. Cetaphil specializes in products that won't cause acne and are safe for people with allergies.

Lotions are the least greasy; however, they sometimes contain alcohol and can be drying. An example would be Nivea body lotion. Read the label on the back of the lotion. You may want to avoid those that contain alcohol.

In general, most moisturizers need to be applied several times throughout the day. Our cold dry climate leads to many complaints about dry skin. Luckily, there are many products on the market that can help even the worst sufferers. If you are not sure about what is right for you, you may need to ask for some professional advice.

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■ LAW ENFORCEMENT

Cops stop speedy drivers

PELHAM — Niagara Regional Police slammed the brakes on dozens of speeding drivers last Thursday, including one travelling 42 km/h over the speed limit.

The NRP's special enforcement

unit and uniformed officers handed out 37 tickets, most for speeding, along Regional Rds. 24 and 20, as well as other rural roads that have seen an increase in speeding drivers recently.

It was part of a rural road

enforcement project focusing on making Niagara's highways safer.

A media release issued last Friday evening said speeding is one of the leading causes of fatal and personal injury collisions in the Niagara Region.

If you have a story idea or see news happening, we want to hear from you —

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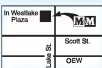
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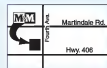
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AROUND TOWN

WEDNESDAY
JULY 31

CASTLEMON THEATRE
presents *The Paper Bag Princess*. Join talented puppeteer Carrie Costello as she performs this beloved Robert Munsch story. Included is a make-and-take puppet. Starts 1 p.m. at Pelham Public Library. Cost \$4. Register ahead.

EXPLORER TOTS

at Port Colborne Public Library for ages two to four with parent/caregiver. Stories, crafts and games. 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Cost is \$1 per class. Pre-register.

SUNDAY

AUGUST 4

BALL'S FALLS HIKES
Ball's Falls volunteers will be providing half-hour guided hikes to the upper falls from the centre for conservation at Ball's Falls Conservation Area at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Regular admission fee applies. For more information visit ballsfalls.ca or call 905-562-5235.

MONDAY

AUGUST 5

NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS
Association meets at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

AUGUST 6

GEOCACHING 101
A real-world outdoor treasure hunt. There are more than two million geocaches worldwide which can be found using a smartphone or GPS. Facilitator Judy Minor will get us started in this environmentally-friendly outdoor recreational activity for all ages. Explore the area around the library as we search for Pelham Public Library's first cache along with some "false" caches: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Adults \$3, children and teens \$1. Please register ahead.

FRIDAY

AUGUST 9

LEGO
at Wainfleet Township Public Library from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Children of all ages can drop-in to build a Lego or Duplo creation. Please do not bring your own Lego blocks.

SUNDAY

AUGUST 11

OUR LADY OF HUNGARY
is hosting its annual Bucsu Lunch at 12:30 p.m. at the Hungarian Hall, Hellens Ave., Welland. Menu: Chicken soup, cabbage rolls, breaded chicken, roasted potatoes, lettuce salad, dessert, coffee/tea. For tickets/reservations call: Les Ulfalussy at 905-892-6407. Rudy

Ragats at 905-734-3880 or Frank Biro at 905-732-7336.

BALL'S FALLS HIKES

Niagara Bruce Trail Club will be providing half-hour guided hikes to the upper falls from the centre for conservation at Ball's Falls Conservation Area at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Regular admission fee applies. For more information visit ballsfalls.ca or call 905-562-5235.

SUNDAY

AUGUST 18

BALL'S FALLS HIKES

Ball's Falls volunteers will be providing half-hour guided hikes to the upper falls from the centre for conservation at Ball's Falls Conservation Area at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Regular admission fee applies. For more information visit ballsfalls.ca or call 905-562-5235.

SUNDAY

AUGUST 25

MS BIKE TOUR

In his my ninth year to raise funds to help our son who has MS, I've registered for the MS Bike Tour to fulfil a personal challenge, and to help the MS Society fund research, advocate for change and help people with MS and their families. I, Larry Peyton, am part of the MS Bike Tour because I believe in a future without multiple sclerosis — and with your help we can get there. Please give generously. Visit msbiketours.com.

BALL'S FALLS HIKES

Niagara Bruce Trail Club will be providing half-hour guided hikes to the upper falls from the centre for conservation at Ball's Falls Conservation Area at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Regular admission fee applies. For more information visit ballsfalls.ca or call 905-562-5235.

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 9

NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS

Association meets at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, at 7 p.m.

ONGOING LISTINGS

WALL OF ART

at Welland Civic Square is showing the work of Jessie Richard for the months of July and August. Other interested artists are encouraged to call 905-732-2840 or 905-735-4463 to display their work during 2014. Donations keep the wall there and tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10.

MORE EVENTS PAGE 26

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Certificates are not available for pick-up at the Welland Tribune.

*The offer price of this promotion is \$99.75 tax included. This offer is available to customers who have not had home delivery in the last 30 days. This offer must be pre-ordered by credit card at time of order. This offer is not available in all delivery areas. This offer is non-refundable. The CINEPLEX Night Out certificate is valid with a prepaid order. Please allow 4-6 weeks for mail delivery of your CINEPLEX certificate which are not available in your local newspaper office. No walk-in orders accepted. Please call phone number provided above to take advantage of this special. C61892525 1433 01/0001. ©Cineplex Entertainment LP or used under license. The price per day includes the value of the CINEPLEX Night Out certificate and is based on the terms and delivery frequency of this promotion. Offer expires September 3, 2013.

AROUND TOWN

WELLAND LAWN BOWLING Club invites the public to come out every Tuesday and Thursday to Chipawak Park at 6:30 p.m. Games will be held until Labour Day.

INFERTILITY SUPPORT GROUP

Niagara meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. for anyone experiencing primary infertility. Call or text 289-821-4606 or e-mail infertilityniagara@hotmail.com, for location or more information.

COUPON CLUB

Thrifty Living Social Club & Coupon Swap takes place the last Monday of the month at Port Colborne

Library, 310 King St., at 6 p.m. Free for all adults. Bring your tradeable coupons, enjoy some refreshments and social time. Chances to win free prizes.

VENDORS WANTED

The Guild Hall Makers' Market, 72 Charlotte St., Port Colborne, is held every Friday 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To inquire, call Mary at 905-835-0394 or the church office at 905-834-3184.

COMPUTER GADGET and drop-in for beginners to advanced learners at Pelham Public Library. Learn new tips and tricks and share ideas and skills with others in an informal set-

ting. One of our Gadget Guys will be on site to facilitate. Some laptops will be available or bring your own gadget). Every other Saturday from July 6 to Aug. 31, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$2.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL STORE

open on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., thanks to new volunteers. Weekday hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

POINT ABINO LIGHTHOUSE Guided tours are offered the second and fourth Saturday of the month between 10 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. Departure from 1036 Point Abino Rd. S. Ridgeway, next to the Bertie Boating Club. Further info at www.forterie.on.ca or

www.palps.ca.

COMPUTER LESSONS

offered one-on-one at Port Colborne library, Saturday mornings. Lessons geared toward your interests.

Topics include e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, blogging and more. Call the library at 905-834-6512 for an appointment. Cost: \$10 per one-hour lesson. Pre-registration required.

TD SUMMER READING CLUB at Wainfleet Township Public Library runs July 2 to Aug. 9. It is divided into three age groups. Each child comes to one session per week. Registration forms available in the library or online. Completed registration forms

must be returned to the library to reserve your child's spot. Sessions fill quickly. No phone registrations permitted. Clubs also offered at Welland and Port Colborne libraries.

SCRAPPY CLUB DROP-IN

at Pelham Public Library. Work on your latest card-making, stamping, paper-craft or scrapbooking project. Bring your items and tools for swapping. How-to tips and ideas for creating different layouts will be shared at each session. All levels. Mondays July 8 and 29, Aug. 26 from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost \$2.

ADVENTURE DAY CAMP

Kids between the ages of six

and 11 get ready for exciting outdoor adventures at Ball's Falls Conservation Area. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority presents Adventure Day Camps at Ball's Falls until Aug. 30. Each week features an exciting theme, nature hikes, games and crafts. Camps take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday to Friday, and extended hours are available for an additional fee. Registration fee is \$120 a week or \$30 a day, family discounts are available. For more information or to register call 905-562-5235 ext. 21, or visit ballsfalls.ca.

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www.niagaradogfest.com



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The Standard



■ ENVIRONMENT



DAVE FLAHERTY QMI Agency

Volunteers add more used electronics to the fast-growing pile during A Place Called Home's (APCH) e-waste collection event held in April in Lindsay.

Region is tops in recycling electronics

Niagara region has hit a milestone in electronics recycling for successfully diverting more than 200,000 tonnes of electronic waste from landfill.

The region has been named a top performer in Ontario for helping the province collect, recycle and successfully divert electronic waste, which has become the fastest growing waste stream in the world.

By recycling, not only are harmful materials being kept out of landfills, but precious materials can be recovered.

"Waste diversion is a hot topic

in Ontario.

As we look at new ways to manage end-of-life electronics, it's important to recognize the success and momentum we're experiencing in electronics recycling," says Jonathan Spencer, executive director, Ontario Electronic Stewardship.

If the amount of e-waste that has been collected was stacked one on top of the other, it would match the height of 776 CN Towers.

Today, 85% of residents live within 25 kilometres from a drop-off site.



Reuters

A worker hammers an obsolete printer at a recycling plant in Buenos Aires.

Make a Difference
RECYCLE

■ **TASTY PARTY:** 40 food vendors, celebrity chefs Chuck Hughes and Danny Smiles

The Trews, Big Sugar headlining food festival

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNews Staff

WELLAND — With The Trews headlining the opening night of entertainment at the 20th annual Niagara Food Festival, fans will likely get "Tired of Waiting" until Sept. 6.

On Wednesday festival organizers announced the lineup of entertainers for

the event taking place in downtown Welland Sept. 6 to 8.

Nova Scotia-based rock band The Trews, known for hit songs including *Tired of Waiting* and *Not Ready to Go*, will perform on the Friday during College Night — a free concert held in conjunction with Niagara College's student orientation events.

"They're a great fit for that college demographic and I think a great fit for Welland," said festival chairman Brad Morgan, adding the festival worked with the school to bring The Trews to the city.

The entertainment will continue Saturday with Big Sugar headlining the show, following performances by Canadian blues-based rock band

Wide Mouth Mason and Welland's own Street Pharmacy.

Morgan said festival organizers worked with Niagara College to recruit entertainment throughout the weekend.

"A lot of great sponsors and support from the City of Welland, the Province of Ontario ... really helped us put on a pretty powerful festival," he said. "Not

only is there entertainment on the main stage, but we've also got some celebrity chefs coming."

Montreal chef Chuck Hughes will be returning for his second year at the festival.

"Last year, he was one of the big hits of the festival. He'll be back on the Saturday performing on the mobile culinary theatre (stage)," Morgan said. "Top Chef Canada finalist

"Danny Smiles" will also perform on the mobile culinary theatre on Saturday, and Welland's own very well known celebrity chef Anna Olson will be here on Sunday."

Morgan said the festival will feature 40 food and wine vendors offering a "plethora" of foods.

He said the lineup of vendors includes 10 newcomers this year.

SHIFT INTO SUMMER

Jumpstart
Giving kids a sporting chance

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■ HEALTH

Joining NHS board 'humbling' for retired nurse

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNews Staff

WELLAND — Bunny Alexander spent 40 years working as a registered nurse at Welland hospital.

She worked in the pediatric department for most of that time.

And now, a few years after retiring, she's returning to Niagara Health System — but this time, she's part of the team running the place.

Alexander was recently appointed as a member of the NHS board of trustees — one of several volunteer positions she holds.

In addition to providing direct patient care, Alexander also has experience in administrative roles within the hospital.

For the last five years of her career, after the region's hospitals amalgamated, Alexander worked in organizational development "kind of bringing the cultures

together, and developing the staff and recognition and working with students and volunteers."

The years of working on the frontline, however, helped her in that role, too.

The Tribune asked Alexander a few questions about her new volunteer position, and her hopes for the future of health care in Niagara.

Q: Why Bunny rather than Bernice?

A: "When I was born my dad called me Bunny, and everyone calls me Bunny. I think it was cute when I was two, but not anymore." But working in the pediatrics department, "the kids got lots of giggles about it."

Q: How does it feel to have been selected as a trustee?

A: "It was really quite honoured because I heard that they had over 60 applica-

tions, and I got an interview and thought, 'Well, that went well, but.' So when I was offered the position I was really quite humbled by it. I was vice-chair of the CCAC (Community Care Access Centre) board, so it was a difficult decision because I couldn't be on both. But I really felt I could contribute more to the NHS than I could to the CCAC."

Q: What do you hope to contribute to the board?

A: "I bring a lot of hospital experience and often on hospital boards you don't see people with a health-care background. I think I'll be able to bring that and a knowledge of Niagara, because I've lived here all my life," she said.

Q: You referred to the lack of people with a health-care background on hospital boards. Is that wrong?

A: "No, I don't think so.

You need to bring a community perspective and if you had all people that had been in health care, you wouldn't get that outside perspective that you need for patients. It's a really interesting mix of people that they have on the board."

Q: Did you live in Welland all your life?

A: "I grew up in Fonthill, went off to school, came back and bought a house in Welland."

Q: What other boards and committees do you serve on?

A: "I'm the chair of the market square advisory board for the city, and I'm a member of the senior citizens advisory committee, and I'm the chair of an ad hoc of that committee that is working very hard to bring hospice services to south Niagara. We've partnered with Hospice Niagara and they've been very supportive. We've already got volunteers working in the

community and a shared care team which involves a physician and nurse practitioner to help people stay at home, rather than dying in a hospital."

Q: How do you find the time?

A: "I think when you do things that you enjoy, you don't look at them as work... It's a busy house but we get by. I get a lot of from my family."

Q: What motivates you to get so involved?

A: "The beauty of being a volunteer is you can pick things that are important to you. Because of my health care background I had an interest in that. But palliative care is something I'm really keen on and the need to enhance our services here."

Q: Do you support the recommendation to build the new south Niagara hospital

in Niagara Falls?

A: "I support Kevin's report," she said referring to the final report prepared by NHS supervisor Kevin Smith. "I think that there is support from Kevin for the Niagara Falls. The more thought I give to it, we have to look at what Welland would be gaining rather than what Welland would be losing. I do think I can move forward considering that side."

Q: Considering the geography of the area, is one south Niagara hospital sufficient?

A: "I think in this day and age we have to know that it will have to be sufficient. I mean there's no way we're getting three new hospitals in Niagara. We'll be very lucky if we get the second one. I think we all need to support that. I know it is a bit of a drive, but if you look around the province at how far people have to get to get to their hospital, (driving to Niagara Falls) is not excessive."

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The Right Hon.
Stephen Harper Date: July 26, 2013

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- Safe appropriate care for all seniors where they need it ~~Start Tomorrow~~ **NOW**
- Long-term Health Human Resource planning: Hire new health graduates before they leave our province ~~Next year~~ **NOW**
- Healthy lifestyle: Breakfast every morning; 8 portions of fruits and vegetables, water and exercise. ~~20 to 30 minutes a day~~ **NOW**
- Federal leadership on the next Health Accord **NOW**

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■ **NIAGARA COLLEGE:** Company behind west Niagara turbine project establishes tuition aid

NRWC making renewable energies studies a breeze

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNews Staff

WELLAND — A green energy company is making it a breeze for students to take studies in renewable energy at Niagara College.

Niagara Region Wind Energy Corp. (NRWC) has helped the college establish three annual \$1,000 scholarships and four annual \$500 bursaries to students in the college's renewable energies technician program.

NRWC spokesperson Randi Rahamin said the company believes it's important to invest in local communities and help them thrive.

"We firmly believe in bringing jobs to local communities," she said. "And part of that is bringing education and finding the right students for the job."

The company is working to develop a controversial 250-megawatt wind energy project in west Niagara and Haldimand County that

will include some 77 wind turbines.

Students in the college's renewable energies program study in the school's Rankin Technology Building that features a vertical wind turbine, solar panels and geothermal technologies that feed the building power, making it a living lab.

The two-year diploma program is designed to meet a growing need for employees in the environmental industry as the gov-

ernment searches for green power sources.

Steve Hudson, the college's vice-president of academics and acting dean of media and technology, said it's nice to see more support for students.

"Education is crucial for future employment and there are a lot of qualified students who may not get to study because of financial need," he said. "We appreciate the support very much."

victoria.gray@sunmedia.ca



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Niagara Region Wind Corp. CEO Mervin Croghan, left, visits with Niagara College vice-president of academics and acting dean of media and technology Steve Hudson to donate \$5,000.

LAUNCH INTO SUMMER EVENT



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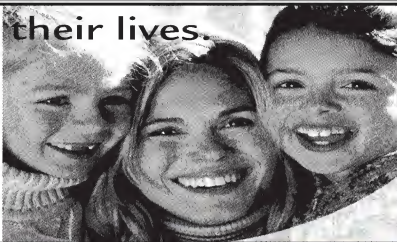
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